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Mom charged in child beating on T

► Boston mother to appear in court today for reportedly assaulting 3-year-old daughter ► Two cases in a week where T riders turn in alleged abusive parent {page 02}

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

MBTA. Playwrights



► Dawn Simmons and six of her peers from a traveling group of playwrights each penned a play while riding the MBTA. The plays, based on their underground experience, hit the stage today and through Sunday audience members will vote for their favorite. {page 06}

News

London riots grow outside city

► Thousands of police try to quell looting, arson as violent gatherings go past city limits
► Unrest continues {page 09}

Coconut water: Is it just nuts?

It's a current health craze, but does it make sense to drink it all up? {page 14}





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Needham man killed in accident

BOSTON. A 22-year-old Needham man was killed when the car he was riding in crashed on Storrow Drive yesterday.

Thomas Piersiak, the passenger in the GMC Sierra, was pronounced dead after the 1:20 a.m. crash near Kenmore Square, authorities said.

The driver, a 22-year-old man also from Needham, suffered life-threatening injuries.

Both men were ejected from the car.

Police are investigating.

● METRO

JEWEL SAMADIA/APPHOTO IMAGES



► Obama on the Vineyard

Fire burns at Obamas' vacation home

EDGARTOWN. A small fire broke out on the Martha's Vineyard farm where President Barack Obama's family is scheduled to vacation later this month.

The 3:30 a.m. fire was in the wall of the main house near a porch that had a gas grill on it, according to the Vineyard Gazette.

This summer will mark the third consecutive year the Obamas have vacationed at the Blue Heron Farm. ● METRO

BU researcher fabricated data

BOSTON. A researcher and assistant professor at Boston University's School of Medicine Cancer Center fabricated data published in scientific journals, according to authorities.

Sheng Wang no longer works at BU and will retract the papers about tumor growth. BOSTON.COM

Celebrity. Chef



► Mayor Thomas Menino's wife, Angela, met with celebrity chef Ming Tsai yesterday at the Sheraton Hotel.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

They charitably chowed down

Mayor Thomas Menino and his wife Angela joined celebrity chef Ming Tsai and other cooks to chew for charity yesterday. The event at the Sheraton Boston Hotel previewed the 18th annual Silk Road Gala for the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence. ● METRO

Expert: Public upset about child abuse on T

- Boston mom is second in a week to be arrested for abuse of child on T
- Parental help group says public incidents just the 'tip of the iceberg'

A Boston mother is scheduled to be arraigned today for allegedly beating her daughter at a Silver Line stop yesterday.

Yan Zhu, 44, was charged with aggravated assault and battery on a child under 14. Transit Police arrested her for beating her 3-year-old daughter at the Tufts Medical Center stop just before 10:30 a.m.

A T spokesman said police talked with "a number of witnesses" and then charged the woman.

The arrest comes a week after Erica Ryan, 25, of Roxbury, was arrested for

allegedly punching her 1-year-old son in the face while trying to feed him as she rode a Route 23 bus.

Randall Block, the executive director of Watertown-based child abuse prevention group Parents Helping Parents, said it is nearly impossible to explain what brings a parent to the point of striking or beating their child, but said it could have something to do with a parent's own upbringing.

"The way we all parent has a lot to do with our own childhood, and when I see stories like parents

"What we're seeing here in these incidents ... this is the tip of the iceberg. This is the public seeing something happen and being upset about it."

RANDALL BLOCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PARENTS HELPING PARENTS

hitting kids, the first thing I wonder is whether, as a child, this parent wasn't hit," Block said. "When we

hit our kids, when we yell at our kids, they remember those things — and it's really hard to let go of those examples."

Block said his group offers parents assistance in the form of support groups and a 24-hour hotline.

"The most important thing is that somebody seek support if somebody feels that their child is too difficult for them to handle for whatever reason; that they find other people who they can talk to."



MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

MBTA says that's not fare

A man was summonsed to court by Transit Police yesterday after he allegedly assaulted a T bus driver.

The unidentified man apparently became angry after the Route 39 driver

asked him for his fare. That's when the man pushed the driver and threw change at him, a T spokesman said.

The alleged assault took place about 8:25 a.m. as

the bus was nearing Green Street in Jamaica Plain.

Police detained the man, and officials cleared the driver to continue service after he denied medical treatment. ● METRO/MN



In the news

\$400

The Bay State led the nation in 2010 with average, individual health insurance premiums topping \$400 per person per month, an analysis released yesterday by the Kaiser Family Foundation stated.

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Former rep in campaign finance flap

The list of Bay State politicians who have answered to criminal charges continued to grow yesterday.

Brian Wallace, 61, the former state representative from South Boston, and his former aid both pleaded not guilty to campaign finance violations during their arraignment in Suffolk Superior Court.

He and his campaign treasurer, Timothy Duros, 50, allegedly failed to report \$6,345 worth of campaign contributions in 2008, according to Attorney General Martha Coakley's office. They allegedly could not provide documentation or support of the contributions.

\$6K

Brian Wallace and his campaign treasurer allegedly failed to report \$6,345 worth of campaign contributions in 2008.

Wallace is the fifth local politician to be criminally charged since 2005. Others include former House speakers Thomas Finneran and Sal DiMasi, Boston City Councilor Chuck Turner and former state Sen. Dianne Wilkerson.



MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us



► Former state Rep. Brian Wallace pleaded not guilty to campaign finance violations yesterday.

Boy, 2, left inside van for two hours

Authorities are investigating how a 2-year-old boy was left inside a van for nearly two hours in Roxbury yesterday.

Officers found the boy inside the van just before noon.

The van company, Trans Pro, was contacted and a manager responded to the scene.

The manager told police that the driver said she parked the van at 25 Trot-

Happy

reunion

► Police reunited the boy with his parent and he was doing OK.

ter Court at about 10 a.m. and forgot the child was inside because he was a new addition to her route, according to police.

● METRO

Cash for residents

Thousands of Massachusetts homeowners will receive roughly \$125 million in loan modifications and damages from predatory and discriminatory lending in a settlement announced

yesterday by Attorney General Martha Coakley.

Coakley filed the settlement Monday requiring Sand Canyon, formerly Option One, to pay the state \$9.8 million. The settlement also directs American Home Mortgage Servicing Inc. to make \$115 million in loan modifications. **SEHS**

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The return of the 'T Plays'

► Writers use MBTA experience to make mini-plays ► Theater work is back by popular demand

Fans of past "T Plays" might recall memorable mini-sagas like the tale of two gay dolphins that go to the Aquarium.

"They are really unique," said John O'Brien, artistic director for Mill 6, the company that puts on the popular plays, which will return this week.

To create "T Plays III," seven writers put their names in a hat and were randomly assigned an MBTA train to ride for the day.

Based on their underground experience, they each concocted a 10-minute play, whether real or fake, and paired off with actors and directors they barely knew to bring their thoughts to the stage.

O'Brien said the popularity in the past prompted the gypsy company to revive the idea again this year.

Past performances have included plays about "death" riding the Silver Line and a tale about Charlie of the "CharlieCard."

"The strangest tales so far have come from the Blue Line. It's the combination of the Aquarium stop, the Airport stop and a stop



► Dawn Simmons wrote a play while riding the MBTA. Simmons' play will be part of the "T Plays" event that begins today.

called Wonderland — the writers go a little crazy," he said.

This year, writer Dawn Simmons created a world of ghostly mystery with a comedic twist after spend-

ing a day riding the Silver Line to the Seaport District.

"On my trip there was nobody around, it was quiet and really eerie," she said. "It inspired a ghost story. ... I'm really

proud of this piece."

Simmons' play and six others will hit the stage for five days, and audience members will vote for their favorite T-inspired creation, said O'Brien.

Quoted

"The strangest tales so far have come from the Blue Line. It's the combination of the Aquarium stop, the Airport stop and a stop called Wonderland."

JOHN O'BRIEN,
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR FOR MILL 6

When is it?

- Wed., Aug. 10 at 8 p.m.
- Aug. 11, 12, 13 and 18, 19, 20 at 8 p.m.
- Sun., Aug. 14 at 3 p.m.
- Tickets: \$15
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Verizon seeks injunctions against strikers

Verizon Communications Inc. has sought court injunctions to prevent striking workers from blocking access to the company's facilities, a spokesman said on the third day of a strike involving almost half of the company's wireline employees. Two unions representing 45,000 workers called a strike on Sunday after a labor contract expired and several weeks of talks for a new contract failed. **REUTERS**



► Things were looking up a bit on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

Apple briefly takes top spot

Apple Inc. briefly edged past Exxon Mobil Corp. yesterday to become the most valuable company in the U.S. after days of volatile stock market ac-

tion. The technology giant's market value rose to \$341.5 billion, just above Exxon's \$341.4 billion, even though the oil major's annual revenue is four times that of Apple's. Exxon quickly regained the No. 1 spot. **REUTERS**

Wall Street roars back in wild trade

► Fed says economy weakened, to keep rates low for two years ► Apple gets brief moment in the spotlight

Stocks rallied yesterday in a volatile session as investors struggled to decipher the Fed's signals on the economy after a dizzying two-week slide.

Buying accelerated into the close and the S&P 500 posted its best day in more than two years, following a drop of nearly 17 percent over the past weeks.

The market reversed direction six times after a Fed statement that pledged two more years of near-zero interest rates.

Bank shares roared back from recent losses with the KBW capital markets index up 6.7 percent.

"The last three or four weeks, the stock market

1-in-4

The U.S. faces one-in-four odds of slipping back into recession, and a weaker economic outlook is raising the likelihood the Federal Reserve will soon do more to boost growth, a Reuters poll shows.

has really discounted a mild recession," said Mohannad Aama of Beam Capital Management LLC.

"The market has to start factoring in what the response from the Fed and the government will be. There is still a small chance for a fiscal stimulus aimed at job creation. The FOMC statement today was positive for equities." **REUTERS**

Market moment



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Police swarm streets of London to battle unrest

► Thousands of cops try to keep peace ► Chaos spreads outside city

Riots flared in English cities and towns last night as London waited anxiously to see if thousands of police deployed on its streets could head off the youths who had rampaged across the capital virtually unchecked for three nights.

In Salford, part of greater Manchester in northwest England, rioters threw bricks at police and set fire to buildings. A BBC cameraman was assaulted.

Television pictures showed flames leaping from shops and cars in Salford and Manchester, and plumes of thick black smoke billowing across roads.

In central Manchester, police said a clothes shop was set alight. "I can confirm a shop is on fire and 200 youths that gathered in the city center have been chased by riot police and dispersed. Seven arrests have been made so far," a spokesman for Greater Manchester Police said.

Further south in West Bromwich and Wolverhampton, cars were burned and stores raided.

Community leaders said the violence in London — the worst for decades in the huge, multi-ethnic capital — was rooted in growing disparities in wealth and opportunity. **REUTERS**



► Police walk past a burning shop in Manchester. Recent riots and looting are expanding outside London proper.

Polygamist leader gets life in jail

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS. Polygamist leader Warren Jeffs, who heads a breakaway Mormon sect, was sentenced to life in prison yesterday for sexually assaulting two underage girls he claimed as "spiritual" brides.

The Texas jury of 10 women and two men deliberated for less than an hour before giving him a 99-year, or life, sentence for one charge and 20 years for a second — the maximum for both.

REUTERS

Junk food still stars in TV ads

NEW YORK. Children are seeing fewer sugary, fatty foods advertised on TV — but unhealthy fare still makes up the bulk of food commercials they see, a new study suggests.

What's more, researchers found, children were actually seeing more fast-food commercials in 2009 compared with six years earlier.

Reported in the Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, the study intended to gauge the effects of a voluntary food industry program called the Children's Food and Beverage Advertising Initiative. **REUTERS**



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myentertainment

THE WORD



Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip [@dorothyatmetro](#) dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Why stars fight the passage of time

Look. I'm not going to devote this space to outline my feelings on women, celebrity, and plastic surgery (that would take at least 200 more words than my usual word count). Let's just say: It's a complicated issue. However, what I don't understand is why everyone moans about women in Hollywood getting plastic surgery after a certain age — and why the stars lie about doing so. It's their job to be on top of their body and image and that means extreme exercise, diet, and yes, probably a nip and tuck here and there. They have to fight the passage of time tooth and nail or else they will wake up in their 40s resembling this disheartening photo of poor **Sinead O'Connor**, now 44, and their fans would be kinda freaked out.

On one hand, it's awesome that O'Connor is comfortable with herself and just doesn't give a crap and,



► Sinead in 1990 (left) and last month.

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MORE GOSSIP

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S
WORD BLOG

really, looks like any normal 44-year-old woman out there. On the other, what happened to that angry little Irish spitfire?! And, perhaps most importantly: Has someone tipped off **Susan Boyle** to the fact that O'Connor raided her closet?

Dirtiest dancing?

You're going to have the time of your life — again. Lionsgate says it is remaking the 1987 film "Dirty Dancing," with original choreographer **Kenny Ortega** taking over as director. Per the press release, Ortega states he is eager to discover and cast "the next breakout triple-threats" to define dancing for a generation, the way Swayze did in the original "Dirty Dancing."

This is a bad, weird idea, Hollywood! What



► Way back when.

qualifies as dirty dancing anymore? When 50-year-olds know how to bump and grind, it's a tip-off that it's not as thrilling as it once was.

The truth will set Pitt free

It may have taken six years, but someone is finally saying what everyone suspected: **Brad Pitt** cheated on **Jennifer Aniston** with **Angelina Jolie**, according to a new book by "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" by producer **Arnon Milchan**. "At first, Jen didn't

believe he was involved with Angelina. She started asking around but no one would tell her anything because they were loyal to Brad, so she asked him point blank. He denied it," Milchan reports. "He eventually admitted he was in love with Angelina. Jen was furious and threw him out."

Talking points

Undercover Leo

Leonardo DiCaprio and **Blake Lively** brought their undercover romance to Los Angeles, trying to keep things low-key with a dinner date in the east side's Los Feliz neighborhood, according to People magazine. The pair reportedly dined out at the restaurant Umami Burger, where Lively "looked very happy and kept smiling," a source says, adding that DiCaprio appeared to enjoy himself, too. "He gently grabbed her hand at



► DiCaprio

one point and he seemed very into Blake."

Feeling blue from being blue (literally)

Zoe Saldana admits that the success of "Avatar" was too



► Saldana

much for her. "The year after 'Avatar' was just emotionally overwhelming. I was traveling all over the world, waking up in different time zones. Your body gets exhausted, and by the end of the year I just collapsed," Saldana tells Latina magazine. "I was sitting in my hotel room, and I couldn't stop crying. I



► Winehouse

couldn't stay awake. I must have slept for an entire month." Things are much better now that Saldana has learned to take some time for herself, though: "I just stay at home and do absolutely nothing," Zoe says. "I don't shower if I don't want to. I don't answer e-mails. It's a healthy way of being selfish."

You can still dress like Winehouse

Despite her untimely death last week, **Amy Winehouse's** clothing collections for Fred Perry will still see the light of day. "When Fred Perry came to us to ask what we would like to do with the new collection it was natural to continue," **Mitch Winehouse**, Amy's father, says in a statement to Women's Wear Daily. "Amy loved working on both collections and would want them to be made available." Proceeds from the first of the two collections will go to the Amy Winehouse Foundation.

The feed ...

► Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Paris Hilton lives it up, Neil Patrick Harris is regretting that play date with Elton John, Tyra Banks isn't convinced, and Conan O'Brien needs to get out more.

► **@ParisHilton**
Midnight in Ibiza, just now on our way to dinner. The night has just begun...

► **@ActuallyNPH**
Terrific. Now, instead of blocks, all the twins are wanting for their birthday is a megayacht.

► **@tyrabanks**
Arguing w/somebody I think is insane. They are saying u can learn ANYTHING on Internet, including learning 2B a heart surgeon! WhatUThink?

► **@ConanOBrien**
Just realized I was reading the Wikipedia page for Steve Urkel. Time to go outside!



Banks



New TUNA & CHICKEN SALAD



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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2011

11

myentertainment



Blanket at 9 years old and other celeb sightings

► **1:** Oh, wow! It's MJ's kids! Prince, now 14 years old, along with 13-year-old Paris and 9-year-old Blanket appeared with their aunt Latoya Jackson at a Michael Jackson Artwork Donation ceremony at the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles

on Monday.

► **2:** Kelly Rowland performed at 4Sixty6 on Sunday in West Orange, N.J., where she reportedly suffered a "nip-slip." Is it me or does it look like she had a wardrobe malfunction while performing in a VFW basement?

► **3:** Celebrity mug shot time! Here's the booking photo of Antwan Patton, also known as Big Boi of the rap group Outkast, who was arrested on drug possession charges on Sunday in Miami. He had quite

the recipe for a serious party: Ecstasy pills, MDMA powder and Viagra.

► **4:** Anne Hathaway at the "One Day" premiere at the AMC Loews Lincoln Square 13 theater in New York on Monday.

► **5:** While Metro photographer Nicolaus Czarnecki was shooting Nicki Minaj at the TD Garden in Boston on Monday night, he couldn't help but notice the show's opener DJ Pauly D was rocking out right next to him.

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► **6:** Take it off, Moz! Morrissey performed onstage at Brixton Academy in London on Sunday.

► **7:** Mini-me? Ben Stiller and Jesse Eisenberg at the after-party for the premiere of "30 Minutes or Less" in Los Angeles on Monday.

► **8:** Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise catch "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark" on Monday in New York.

1: VALERIE MACDONALD/GETTY IMAGES
2: DAVE KOTINSKY/GETTY IMAGES
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2011

13

myentertainment

Empowered women vs. unmanly men on ABC



► Is something on fire? "Last Man Standing" star Tim Allen is a "real man" — he can fix it!

► Live from TCA press tour: Why does it seem like everyone on the network is fighting to define themselves?

"We are known for creating storytelling with empowered women," ABC Entertainment Group President Paul Lee said of his network at the Television Critics Association press tour on Sunday. He cited hits "Desperate Housewives" and "Grey's Anatomy" as examples — along with new additions to the ABC schedule, "Charlie's Angels," a remake about the famous trio of butt-kicking women, and "Pan Am," following flight attendants in the 1960s. Yet ABC will also premiere new comedies "Man Up!" and "Last Man Standing," series

that both attempt to address a perceived demasculinization of American men.

What gives? Why is the dissection of gender roles suddenly at the forefront of the network's lineup?

"It's the job of television, and has been since we started, to look at the plight of men, to look at the plight of women. And I think we look at it in very different ways," Lee insists. "It's our job to create television that questions how people feel in the world."

AMBER RAY
amber.ray@metro.us

Movie review



► Emma Stone, Octavia Spencer and Viola Davis star in "The Help," which opens nationwide today.

A dose of grit needed in 'The Help'

'The Help'

Director: Tate Taylor

Cast: Emma Stone, Viola Davis and Bryce Dallas Howard

Rating: PG-13

Grade: A-

"The Help" takes place against the backdrop of a time in the South when groups like the White Citizens' Council had a store-

front on Main Street. The story of a plucky young writer (Emma Stone) and two courageous African-American maids (Viola Davis and Octavia Spencer) who write a book exposing the real lives of the domestic help is a finely acted but somewhat sanitized look at Mississippi life in 1963. Long on emotion and sincerity, to be truly effective this could have used a little more grit, but it does tell an important and heartfelt story.

• RICHARD CROUSE

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2011

mywellbeing

Loco for coco? You should read this



► Rihanna helped create a new tropical flavor of coconut water for Vita Coco, one of the brands that didn't fare so well in the study. Maybe she should stick to making music.

► The popular drink may not be as good for you as you think ► 'Today' show nutritionist weighs in ► When 'plain old water' is the better choice

If you rely on coconut water for hydration after a workout, or you just like to sip some as you go about your day, you may want to re-think your decision to do so: A new research study calls into question some popular claims by the leading manufacturers of the trendy beverage.

The researchers at ConsumerLab.com looked at levels of sodium, potassium, magnesium and sugar content in Zico Natural, Vita Coco and O.N.E. and found that only Zico Natu-

ral had the actual levels of each purported on its label.

Vita Coco and O.N.E. contained the sugar and potassium amounts advertised, but the actual amount of sodium was less by as much as 82 percent, and the actual amount of magnesium was less by as much as 35 percent. Both sodium and magnesium play important roles in hydration.

"I like to recommend coconut water as a more natural alternative to sports drinks for serious athletes, so it was disappointing to see the results of the Consumer Lab study," says "Today" show nutritionist Joy Bauer, author of "Joy Bauer's Food Cures." "For very serious athletes exercising several hours a day

"For very serious athletes ... a sports beverage with regulated amounts of electrolytes may be the best option. But for the rest of us nonathletes and casual exercisers ... plain old water is the best beverage for proper hydration."

JOY BAUER



Of Zico Natural, Vita Coco and O.N.E., Zico Natural came out on top.

who are relying on these drinks to help them recover each day, a sports beverage with regulated amounts of electrolytes may be the best option. But for the rest of us nonathletes and casual exercisers who don't need the extra carbs or electrolytes, plain old water is the best beverage for proper hydration. It is naturally calorie-free, sugar-free and sodium-free."

The surge in coconut water led to the study, according to ConsumerLab.com president Tod Cooperman. "We wanted to know what was really in these products and if they lived up to their labels," he told Metro.

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Texting in public: When is it not OK?

► Yeah, we can see you texting under the table — and guess what, it's rude!
► Plus, how to give the phone-aholic in your life a subtle reality check

People are addicted to their mobile devices and social media, and naturally it spills into the dating world. I see more and more clients for such issues. If what I see on my couch is any indication of what's going on in the population at large, then we're in for a major breakdown in communication. Texting, Facebook and other social networking — although they have great benefits — have bred a culture of social decline. For proof, next time you're at a party or business function, look around the room and note how many people are buried in electronic devices.

Regarding dating: Frankly, if people can't stay

No more drama



JONATHAN ALPERT
WWW.JONATHANALPERT.COM

The question

In social situations, particularly on dates, I've noticed that people I'm talking to start checking their text messages and interrupting the conversation. I find this rude and have a hard time resuming the conversation. How should I respond? What is appropriate texting etiquette? Are people that addicted to their phones?

off their devices for an hour or two, that's a problem. Of course there are extenuating circumstances that might warrant responding to a text on a date (for instance, if one is on call for work or expecting an important message). But, by and large, out of respect to others, people should adhere to the rule that's been around for years: Never take calls during dinner. If that isn't possible, then the person should ask to be excused, explaining that it's an important text or call. Another strategy is to keep the phone on vibrate or silent, and then check messages when using the restroom.

As for how you can re-

spond to such a situation, if it's a first or second date, consider this behavior an enlightening moment as you get to know the person. Clearly you have different social-etiquette values that could prove problematic. If, though, it's someone you've gotten to know and like, then let that person know you enjoy his or her company, acknowledge the calls and suggest meeting another time. This subtle yet direct approach should be an obvious wake-up call.

— Jonathan Alpert is a licensed psychotherapist. E-mail him your questions at jonathan@jonathanalpert.com

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► He'd better be checking that text in the restroom.

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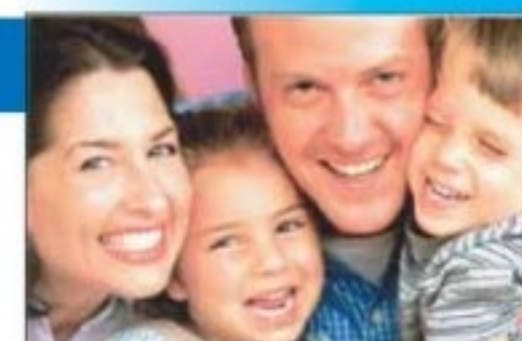
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Stop pointing fingers

RE: BLAME IT ON THE REIGN: Mr. Connell blames Tea Party Republican freshmen for our troubles in Washington. Does he realize that Obama was a freshman senator when he won the White House? He is the least-effective president I have seen in my lifetime. His abilities are limited to using social media to brainwash our youth. Our crisis will not end until he leaves office and is replaced by someone, from either party, who can gain the support of both houses. As an additional tool to solve

our problems, EVERYONE in Washington needs to pay in to Social Security.
MICHAEL BURTON, VIA E-MAIL

Impatience leads to failure

RE: BLAME IT ON THE REIGN: Mr. Connell hit the nail on the head when he pointed out that the voters put tea baggers in congress. Now the same voters are in picket lines in Wisconsin and other states complaining about Congress. People always like to point out a tethering president, but what about the tethering voters? Obama and the Democrats were just get-

ting the economy turned around before impatient voters put Tea Party activists in congress. Stop complaining about Congress not functioning — you voted for it!
VICTOR R. ROBINSON, VIA E-MAIL

End this lame blame game

Blaming the Tea Party for the destruction of the American economy is a cop-out. Government does not create economic prosperity, businesses do. If we depend on God and not the government, this mess will evaporate. Recognize that people are not in of-

fice to make us happy and take care of us. Personal responsibility is a must!
OMAR BRANCH, VIA E-MAIL

Accountability of parliament

With riots in London escalating, news sources are focusing on how they'll affect the upcoming Olympic Games. They should focus on what leads thousands in impoverished neighborhoods to take violent action. I don't condone violence, but socioeconomic factors like police brutality, high unemployment and deep cuts to social programs sparked the riots. The government refuses to acknowledge these issues because they don't want to give the rioters legitimacy.

NICK AQUINO, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

Leo July 23-Aug. 22. Although your inclination may be urging you to waste your time playing hooky, get a grip on yourself and pay attention to neglected responsibilities.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22. If you're not careful, without realizing it you could easily begin to impose your will upon your companions. If you do, you won't be very popular.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23. Striving for lofty goals is admirable, but unless you choose realistic aims, they might not be that easy to achieve. If that's the case, don't start blaming others for your poor choices.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22. Associates will be unreceptive to your suggestions if in the past you have been close-minded to theirs. At the very least, be willing to listen and consider what they have to say.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21. Constant vigilance is essential if you are responsible for a project that could affect the welfare of others. Don't take lightly your commitment.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19. It's a time for building bridges, not barriers. For the sake of harmony and progress, you and your mate shouldn't butt heads, but put them together for a common cause.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 19. With your physical and mental energies both in high gear, you could have difficulty distinguishing the difference between assertiveness and mere aggressiveness. Take care.

Pisces Feb. 20-March 20. Instead of associating with a clique that is made up of certain people who make you feel uncomfortable, you should find companions who have pleasant ways to spend their time.

Aries March 21-April 19. If you want others to be supportive of your interests, you must be there for them when they need you. Make some time to help an associate.

Taurus April 20-May 20. Being in a talkative mood could have you telling others about things you might otherwise keep to yourself. Don't let something slip out that you need to keep under tight wraps.

Gemini May 21-June 20. When you find yourself in a spending mood, your material desires can be very pronounced, which could be the case at his juncture. Be very careful about going off on a wild spree.

Cancer June 21-July 22. You're more easily influenced than you may realize, so take care that you're not unduly swayed by others to waste your time. Set some goals and go after them. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

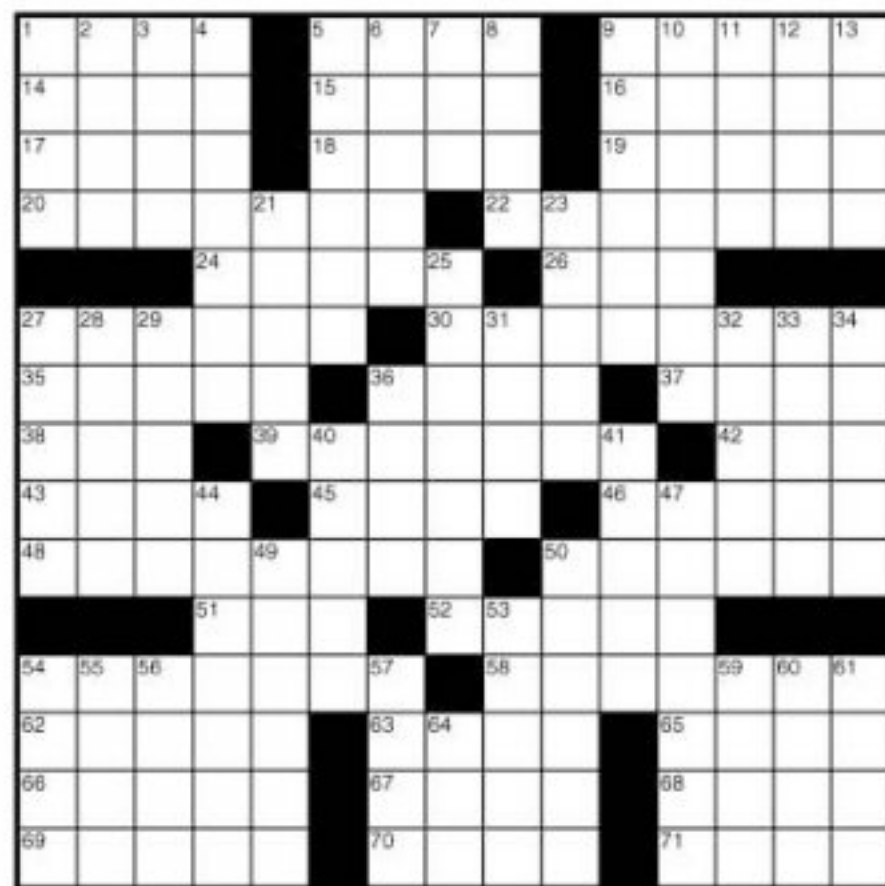
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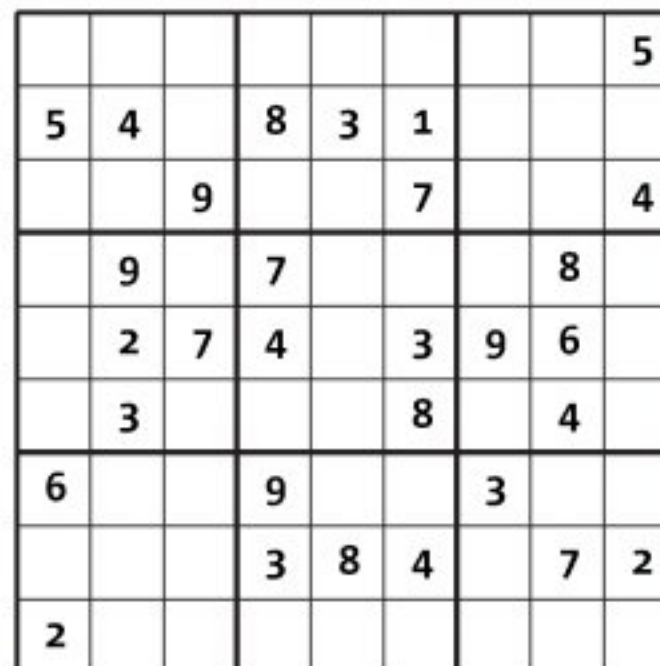
- 1 Picnic fare
5 Cold-cuts seller
9 Opera by Gounod
14 Petty or Loughlin
15 Ballot marks
16 Turn signal
17 Egret cousin
18 Perfume bottle
19 String quartet member
20 Nursery buy (2 wds.)
22 Rap-sheet names
24 Palm off
26 Hoop site
27 In a huff
30 Continuous arrivals
35 Teen bane
36 Surfeit
37 Big umbrella
38 Undershirt
39 Chic
42 201, to Claudius
43 Chalky mineral
45 Subpoena
46 Helena rival
48 Mirage
50 Paddled
51 Holiday cheer
52 Imported cheese
54 Kind of rice
58 Faint
62 Fermented milk
63 Pre-college
65 Make a sweater
66 Harebrained
67 Nothing, in Nice
68 Sicilian landmark
69 Mammoth
70 Structure, briefly
71 Many boxers
Down
1 Boat mooring
2 Oak leaf part
3 Tune from an opera



- 4 Pensive
5 Totally lacking
6 Departures
7 Pasture
8 "La __ Bonita" (Madonna tune)
9 Salon offering
10 Home furnishing (2 wds.)
11 WWW addresses
12 Fish choice
13 Low cards
21 Dryden and Donne

- 23 Most hooks and jabs
25 Plowing
27 Ms. LaBelle
28 Just perfect
29 Crush
31 Wee hours in Cannes
32 Hobby knife (hyph.)
33 Banquet host
34 Was a double agent
36 Pita treat
40 Branches
41 Cerberus' threesome
44 Guile

- 47 Had a cookie
49 Evening gala
50 Raising 2 to 8
53 __ and aahed
54 Black & Decker rival
55 Alejandro of baseball
56 Nowhere near
57 Kind of tea
59 Golden Rule word
60 Circus arena
61 LAX guesses
64 Rapper Kim

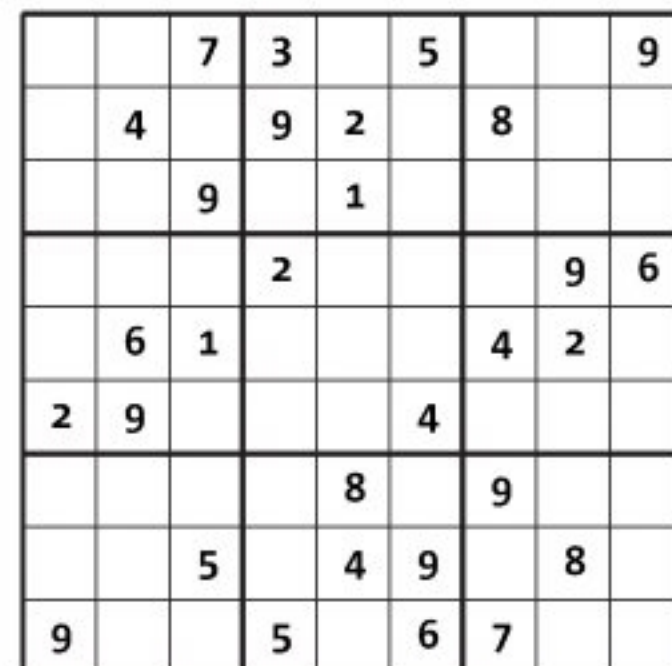


SUDOKU LEVEL: EASY

Solution to yesterday's crossword



How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.



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WR: I'll stay with a fan

If you're around Foxborough and looking for a roommate, we've got just the guy.

Chad Ochocinco. The Patriots wideout said yesterday he plans to stay with a fan "probably the first two or three weeks of the season."

"I'll just pick somebody," he said. "They have to have Internet and they have to have Xbox and that's about it." **METRO**

Patriots dedicate season

The Patriots are dedicating the 2011 season to the memory of Myra Kraft, the wife of owner Bob Kraft who died July 20.

Players will wear a patch with Myra Kraft's initials throughout the season, starting tomorrow. **METRO**

No talent shortage on Patriots' lines

► OL, DL are restocked and stacked ► Mankins, Light will be back in front of Brady ► Expect plenty of different looks from Wilfork's bunch on 'D'

With so much of last year's successful team back, the Patriots were in a good spot going into 2011.

But that didn't stop them from stocking up on talent — mostly on the lines.

The offensive line won't look any different — at least when it comes to starters. The futures of Logan Mankins and Matt Light were up in the air prior to the start of training camp, but both will be back. The rest of the core will return, too.

Bill Belichick added some depth in front of Tom Brady when he drafted Nate Solder in the first round. He's expected to take over for Light when the veteran's contract runs out in 2013, but Solder can play the right side, too.

The defensive line, meanwhile, could end up being entirely different from last year.

Will the Pats play a 3-4 or a 4-3? The short answer: Both ... which is why Belichick added just about every talented D-lineman under the sun in the last few weeks.

Some will be used at outside linebacker, too, most likely to add rushers in a blitz package. Look for



► Don't worry: Matt Light is under contract once more.

OL in short

- **Major additions**
Nate Solder, Marcus Cannon
- **Major departures**
None
- **Projected contributors**
Matt Light, Logan Mankins, Dan Koppen, Dan Connolly, Sebastian Vollmer, Solder, Rich Ohrnberger, Ryan Wendell, Steve Maneri
- **Out**
Mark LeVoi

new guys Andre Carter and Mark Anderson to be slotted there occasionally.

If Albert Haynesworth is healthy and motivated, opposing quarterbacks will be under pressure often — something that didn't happen last season.

With the new guys and a ton of different looks, New England will definitely keep its foes guessing.

JIMMY TOSCANO
sports@metro.us

Breaking it down

We've been breaking down the Patriots roster this week, leading up to tomorrow's preseason opener against the Jaguars. Next, we'll focus on the linebackers and secondary.

DL in short



- **Major additions**
Albert Haynesworth, Shaun Ellis, Andre Carter, Mark Anderson
- **Major departures**
Ty Warren, Marcus Stroud
- **Projected contributors**
Haynesworth, Vince Wilfork, Ellis, Mike Wright, Eric Moore, Myron Prior, Kyle Love, Carter, Jermaine Cunningham, Anderson
- **Out**
Gerard Warren, Brandon Deaderick

3

Quoted



"Once we're on the field, there is no talking. I just look in his eyes and that's it, and that's how we communicate on the field."

CHAD OCHOCINCO, ON PLAYING ALONGSIDE TOM BRADY

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Sports in brief



Johnson still holding out

Titans RB Chris Johnson extended his holdout to a 12th day yesterday.

He has missed the deadline to report in order to accrue a season toward free agency. But that doesn't seem to matter to Johnson, who is due to make just \$800,000 in base salary this year.

METRO

Yao to Hall by next year?

Retired Houston Rockets center Yao Ming could reportedly enter the Basketball Hall of Fame as early as 2012 as a "contributor."

It takes five years before players can enter the Hall. But not contributors. METRO

"It's time for everyone to turn the attention to the team."

Joe Paterno was released from the hospital yesterday, days after suffering a hairline fracture in his pelvis when he was "blindsided" by a player on the sidelines.

"We have a lot of hard work ahead in order to be as good as we think we can be," the 84-year-old Penn State coach said in a statement.

METRO

Despite injury talk, Pats looking pretty healthy

- ▶ National focus on Achilles tears
- ▶ Good luck so far in Foxborough

There's been plenty of talk around the NFL in recent days about the lockout's potential effects on player health.

Ten NFL players have suffered Achilles tendon tears since the start of camp — striking, since The New York Times reported just nine players tore theirs in the entire 2010 preseason.

But while instances of some injuries around the league appear to be up, the Patriots have been fortunate so far. New England hasn't reported any major injuries.

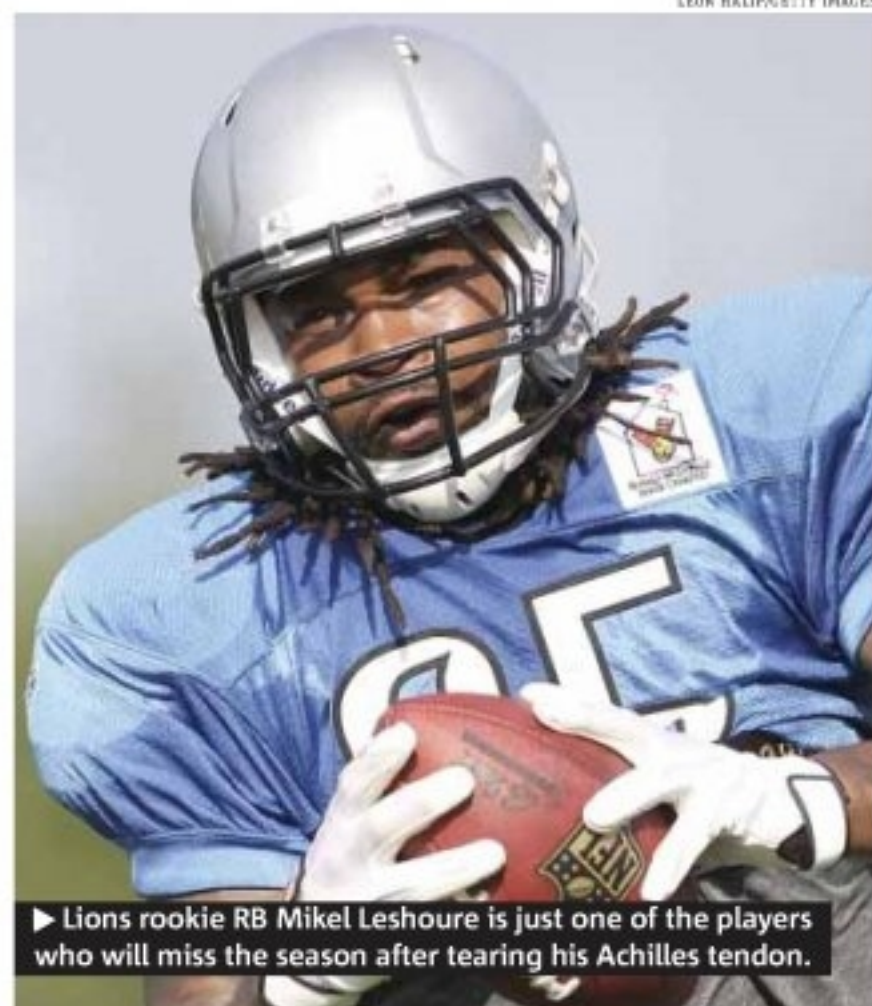
Is that a result of erring on the side of caution following an offseason in

which players didn't have access to team staff? Coach Bill Belichick said no; the Pats aren't doing much differently in terms of making sure players are ready to go.

"We're doing what we always do," he said. "Just give the players the best treatment we possibly can. When they're ready to participate, then we let them participate at that level, whatever that level happens to be. Those are daily decisions."

New England's health, of course, isn't perfect. Albert Haynesworth and Shaun Ellis are "day to day," Belichick said.

JIMMY TOSCANO



▶ Lions rookie RB Mikel Leshoure is just one of the players who will miss the season after tearing his Achilles tendon.

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Saying goodbye to Minnesota

When the Red Sox close their three-game series at Minnesota tonight, they'll also be closing the book on the Twins this season.

On the air tonight

Red Sox at Minnesota
8:10 p.m., NESN, WEEI

Tonight's contest is the last time Boston sees the Twins until 2012. On some level, that's too bad: The Sox entered last night's game 4-1 against Minnesota this season.

Jon Lester will be on the mound tonight for Boston; he hasn't posted a truly



► Lester

poor start since May 30 against the White Sox. But he has a 4.67 career ERA against the Twins.

Right-hander Nick Blackburn (7-9, 4.58 ERA this year) will be on the mound for Minnesota. He's 2-1 all-time against Boston.

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At least a few more days for Wakefield

The Red Sox beat the Twins on Monday night.

But again, the winning pitcher was not



Tim Wakefield, who's still in search of his 200th career victory.

The 45-year-old knuckleballer should be trying for the milestone again Sunday at Seattle (4:10 p.m., NESN, WEEI).

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Photography By:
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Pimp my gadgets

► Lifestyle-technology expert Janna Robinson introduces us to the latest home electronics
► Five ways to be more tech-savvy

We watch in awe and (ahem) envy on our chunky TVs as lifestyle-technology expert Janna Robinson installs state-of-the-art gadgets in the homes of celebrities such as Oliver

Stone and Kevin Connolly on her DIY Network show "Hollywood Hi-Tech." Not yet ready for a home theater in your studio apartment? No prob. Robinson recommends five must-have items to keep you up to speed. **METRO**



► Robinson helped Kevin Connolly get the screening room of his dreams ... perhaps for an "Entourage" series finale viewing?

1. Streaming device

Our TVs are becoming an entertainment hub with the help of streaming services like Netflix and Amazon VOD. They give us access to a much wider array of content. You can use an Internet-connected entertainment device, like a gaming console, Roku, Apple TV or Blu-ray player to stream your favorite movies and shows. I am a big movie buff, so streaming is important to me. I stream Netflix in my living room via my Panasonic Viera HDTV and use my Panasonic Blu-ray player in the bedroom. I am never far from my favorite films.

2. Digital tablet

Tablets are a multifunctional device. They are lightweight, compact and easy to use — and they have a long battery life. Whether you choose an iPad, HP TouchPad, Samsung Galaxy Tab or one of the many others in the marketplace, a tablet is a great way to lighten your load. I like to use my iPad for presentations, streaming movies on long flights and catching up on my reading.

3. Universal remote

Put a stop to the madness and curtail the clutter by using one remote control for all of your home entertainment devices. Logitech and URC offer some great selections. If you are feeling particularly technically inclined, convert your smartphone and/or tablet into your remote control by downloading an app that will control all your electronic devices.

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4. Wireless music system

Wireless music systems give you the freedom to listen to music anywhere in your house without having to worry about running wires. You can listen to the same music or a different selection in every room — and even in your backyard. Companies like Sonos, Logitech's Squeezebox Boom and Sony AirPlay offer affordable and easy-to-use audio solutions.

5. Surge protector

Safeguard your home electronic system, computers, peripherals, etc. from power outages and/or lightning strikes — which can only take a second to destroy your expensive equipment. Companies like Belkin, APC, Monster Cable among many others, have some great products. Entertainment systems tend to be one of the biggest energy drains in a household and Belkin's Conserve line can put your AV components on standby when not in use, ultimately saving you money on your energy consumption.

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**WHERE ARE INTEREST
RATES GOING?**

By Attorney
George Warshaw

Lost in the debris of the deficit debacle and the stock market free fall is the effect on mortgage interest rates. Will they rocket upwards, stay the same or decline?

Mortgage rates rise or fall based on something. But what?

There are actually two types of mortgage loans and two types of rates: first mortgages are long-term interest rates; home equity loans are short-term monthly rates. The rate on each is established differently, and often go in different directions based on the exact same news.

When the Fed announces that it is lowering or raising rates, that affects the monthly rate charged on home equity loans, not first mortgages.

First mortgage rates are determined by the longer-term bond market. I've heard it said that first mortgage rates follow "the 10-year Treasury" or "mortgage backed securities" instead. In other words, as prices on a specific longer-term "fixed income investment" rise or fall on Wall Street, first mortgages interest rates ultimately bounce along with it.

Confused? Since no one seems to be managing our economy right now, you are not alone. Be safe. If you can lower your first mortgage rate, do it now.

Need a recommendation for a good mortgage lender? Email me. I know several good lenders.

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Attorney George Warshaw represents buyers and sellers of homes, condos and investment properties, prepares wills and trusts for inheriting real estate, and trusts that protect your children and pets. George welcomes new clients and questions at metro@warshawlaw.com.

JUNE DOOM

► Mass. home sales see another dismal month ► Worst sales numbers in 20 years ► But sources say buyers may be re-entering the market

THINKSTOCK IMAGES



► This woman may actually have some luck selling, since it seems the numbers really can't get much worse.

By the numbers

► Condominium sales in Massachusetts in June dropped almost

32%

from a year earlier.

► A total of

1,706

condos sold in June.

SOURCE: THE WARREN GROUP



CHRISTINA WALLACE
christina.wallace@metro.us

Home sales in the month of June plummeted once again, marking the worst sales numbers in that month in two decades, according to a recent report.

There was a 23.5 percent decrease in single-family home sales in the Bay State last month compared to June 2010, according to the report released by The Warren Group, publisher of Banker & Tradesman. June was the fifth straight month this year to have double-digit decreases.

"June is typically one of the busiest months of the year for real estate closings. It is disappointing to see such a steep decline," said Timothy M. Warren Jr., CEO of The Warren Group, in a statement.

According to analysts, spring numbers this year look particularly low because they are being compared to spring 2010, when the federal government was

"June is typically one of the busiest months of the year ... It is disappointing to see such a steep decline."

TIMOTHY M. WARREN JR.

still offering the homebuyer tax credit.

"This year's sales slump is carrying on as we compare the level of home sales in 2011 to the inflated number of sales driven by last year's homebuyer tax credits," said Warren.

One indicator that things may be improving: Quarterly home prices increased slightly from last year from \$300,000 to \$304,000.

"A second straight month of increasing prices is a promising indicator that buyers are beginning to re-enter the market, and downward pressure on home prices is abating," Warren said.

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60% of Metro readers own their current home.

Source: Scarborough R2 2010

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